

HISTORY

of the

VETERANS' CENTER
1944-1969

The Ohio State University

The Ohio State University

HISTORY OF THE VETERANS' CENTER 1944-1969

The Veterans' Center was established in September 1944 as a part of the Office of the Vice President for Student Relations. The previous year a few veterans had been enrolled in The Ohio State University under the Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Act. But with the passage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 in June 1944, one veteran enrolled the second term of Summer Quarter 1944 under the provisions of this act.

The number of veterans enrolled at Ohio State under the educational benefits of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 and the Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Act remained comparatively small for the academic year 1944-1945. Autumn Quarter 1944, 57 of the 262 veterans enrolled had been students in the Colleges of Dentistry (45) and Medicine (12), under the reserve programs of the United States Army and Navy. The number of Veterans Administration sponsored veterans gradually increased during the academic year 1944-1945 and following V-E and V-J Days, markedly increased for the year 1945-1946 (1,254 veterans Autumn Quarter; 3,875, Winter Quarter; and 7,097, Spring Quarter).

The big bulge came in the academic years 1946-1947 and 1947-1948. Autumn Quarter 1946 the number of VA sponsored students increased to 14,228 with more than seven thousand veterans presenting Certificates of Eligibility for the first time. The peak quarter was Autumn Quarter 1947 when the total was 14,473.

The number of veterans enrolled at The Ohio State University under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 gradually declined until Summer Quarter 1960 when only one veteran at Ohio State claimed educational benefits under this act.

In the meantime, the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952 (popularly known as the Korean G.I. Bill) became effective. Autumn Quarter 1952 352 veterans at The Ohio State University received educational benefits under this new act, while there were still 1,452 enrolled under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 and 79 under the Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Act, making a total of 1,883 VA sponsored veterans Autumn Quarter 1952. Thereafter, the number of students receiving educational benefits under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 continued to decline while those enrolled under the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952 increased until Autumn Quarter 1956 when the total number of VA sponsored students was 4,068--the largest number since Spring Quarter 1951 (4,207). Of the 4,068 enrolled Autumn Quarter 1956, 4,003 were receiving VA educational benefits under the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952. Thereafter, though fluctuating slightly, the number declined until Winter Quarter 1965 when there were only 40 enrolled under the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952. The expiration date for benefits under this act was January 31, 1965.

The first enrollment of students at The Ohio State University under the provisions of the War Orphans' Educational Assistance Act was in Spring Quarter 1957 when there were 17. Later the Act was amended to include children of 100 per cent disabled veterans. The peak number of students under this act as amended was 173 (Autumn Quarter 1964). The number of VA sponsored veterans declined until in Spring Quarter 1966 there were only 158.

Summer Quarter 1966, the number of VA sponsored veterans again increased because of the Veterans' Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966. With the number of Ohio State University students receiving educational benefits under this act (632), the total number of VA sponsored students jumped from 158 Spring Quarter 1966 to 687 Summer Quarter 1966. The number of students enrolled under the Veterans' Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966 has increased each year, Spring Quarter 1969, there were 1868.

Effective July 26, 1968, the Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Act was amended to enable disabled veterans to attend school part time with the same benefits as veterans enrolled full time.

Effective December 1, 1968, the War Orphans' Educational Assistance Act was amended the second time to include the widows and wives of deceased and one hundred per cent disabled veterans.

The enrollment of students under these two bills as amended resulted in an increase of only eight students, bringing the total of VA sponsored students for the Spring Quarter 1969 to 2002, the largest number since Spring Quarter 1959. It is anticipated that there will be more students receiving benefits under these amended acts and that with an increasing number of servicemen returning from Viet Nam, the enrollment of VA sponsored students at The Ohio State University will again continue to increase.

Appendix: Enrollment of Ohio State Students Receiving Educational Benefits from the Veterans Administration Autumn Quarter 1944 through Spring Quarter 1969 (except for the years when there was an appreciable increase during the academic year, the enrollment for Autumn Quarter only of each year is indicated.)

APPENDIX

Students Enrolled in The Ohio State University Under Sponsorship of the Veterans Administration Autumn Quarter 1944 through Spring Quarter 1969

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>SRA</u> <u>1944*</u>	<u>VVRA**</u>	<u>VRAA</u> <u>1952+</u>	<u>VRBA</u> <u>1966++</u>	<u>WOEAA#</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Autumn 1944	189	73				262
Winter 1945	252	82				334
Spring 1945						392
Autumn 1945	967	287				1,254
Winter 1946	3,477	398				3,875
Spring 1946	6,574	523				7,097
Autumn 1946	13,242	986				14,228
Autumn 1947	13,269	1,204				14,473
Autumn 1948	11,194	976				12,170
Autumn 1949	8,887	620				9,507
Autumn 1950	5,354	347				5,701
Autumn 1951	3,035	145				3,180
Autumn 1952	1,452	79	352			1,883
Autumn 1953	737	70	1,331			2,138
Autumn 1954	362	64	2,463			2,889
Autumn 1955	177	65	3,541			3,783
Autumn 1956	14	51	4,003			4,068
Autumn 1957	3	37	3,516		30	3,586
Autumn 1958	2	31	2,730		38	2,801
Autumn 1959	2	24	1,808		57	1,891
Autumn 1960		12	1,062		79	1,153
Autumn 1961		7	542		113	662
Autumn 1962		7	262		141	410
Autumn 1963		13	127		137	277
Autumn 1964		12	58		173	243
Autumn 1965		12			158	170
Summer 1966		7		632	48	687
Autumn 1966		11		1,399	122	1,532
Autumn 1967		13		1,602	109	1,724
Autumn 1968		18		1,727	108	1,853
Winter 1969		19		1,843	109	1,971
Spring 1969		21		1,868	113	2,002

* Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944

** Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Act

+ Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952

++ Veterans' Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966

War Orphans' Educational Assistance Act